

Wycombe Ten - Men Goal - Riot

By 'NOVA'

Clapton 2,

Wycombe Wanderers 6

FEWER than 200 spectators at Forest Gate on Saturday saw a cheerless, lacklustre game in which Wycombe Wanderers took a long time to master bottom-of-the-table Clapton.

Abandoning their 4-2-4 system after the interval when they were level 1-1 — and moving Charlie Gale back to left-half, Wycombe began to show their talents. As they moved upfield the Clapton defence wilted and there was nothing to stop the five-goal flood.

The astonishing point about the goal-riot was that it came when Wycombe had only ten men, John Beck having been taken off with a twisted ankle.

Without pivot Peter Roystone—who went to Clapton instead of Forest Gate and arrived minutes after the kick-off—Wycombe's defence looked shaky even against a forward line that had scored only three times in seven games.

When Cousins shot the home side into the lead after ten minutes it was no more than the pathetic Wanderers deserved. But 13 minutes later Paul Hodges went through on his own to equalise.

Hodges, the best forward throughout, provided Wycombe's second goal two minutes after half-time for Horseman. But it was not until Beck went off that Wycombe started attacking in force. Len Worley scored with a cross shot, Hodges added a fourth, Horseman the fifth and a Thomas penalty completed the scoring. Webber managed one consolation goal for Clapton.

Wycombe:—D. Syrett; J. Beck, G. Pullin; D. Thomas, A. Lewis, J. Cooper; L. Worley, C. Gale, D. Bassett, T. Horseman, P. Hodges.